

SAUCERS, SPACE & SCIENCE - Special bulletin issued to a selected group of saucerers

January - 1958 - Number 2.

SPACEMEN VISIT WOMAN BUT NEIGHBORS WALK OUT

Birmingham, England, November/57. (Montreal Star) Mrs. Cynthia Appleton said her friends and neighbors walked out on her when two spacemen walked into her life.

The 27-year-old mother of two girls claimed that the spacemen walked right into her home, sat down, and had a talk to her about their plans for Earth.

Mrs. Appleton said she was visited by the spacemen twice in 6 weeks. The first visitor from outer space arrived solo but on his next visit he brought a friend along, she said.

"Tall and blond - like Greek athletes they were," she said.

"One afternoon last November I was in the lounge of my home when a spaceman suddenly appeared. I was terrified but he spoke so kindly that I wasn't frightened any more.

"He said his people were willing to come to earth but with only one objective in mind...to raise the standard of our civilization."

Mrs. Appleton said the spaceman returned and brought his friend along. "They had domes on their heads and wore tight fitting costumes."

Two Church of England clergymen who have called on Mrs. Appleton said they believed her story. Her husband, Ron, believed it too.

Nov. 30/57 - Fairbanks, Alaska. About 50 witnesses saw a flaming object southeast of here. Several scientists from the University of Alaska are convinced it was a fireball or meteor. Al George, executive officer of the Geophysical Institute said institute observers saw an intensely bright, slightly greenish object shaped like a light-bulb fall at 3.30 p.m.

Nov. 30/57 - The British Columbia Ground Observer Corps had six "good" sightings of a UFO described as a fireball from Mile 1127 on the Alaska Highway to Lethbridge, Alberta. The object was at about 30,000 feet, lighting up the St. Elias mountain range. Shortly before this, a similar report came from Skagway, Alaska.

Nov. 30/57 - The U.S. Army reported from Fairbanks, Alaska, that a brightly glowing object plunged to earth on the Fort Greely reservation 100 miles southeast of there.

Dec. 1/57 - Hattiesburg, Mississippi. An inspector of the Miss. Hwy. patrol reported he saw a "ball of fire" which appeared to fall west of Hattiesburg.

Dec. 1/57 - Montana, some watchers reported a terrific explosion and a green ball of fire and a white flash so bright it blinded motorists momentarily in the northern and eastern sections of the state.

Dec. 1/57 - Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. 30 reports were received by Frank Cushing of the Moose Jaw Astronomical Society, of a fireball early Sunday morning, which appeared to have a horizontal path and then sloped very quickly towards the earth near Rouleau. The phenomenon lasted 2 or 3 seconds and lit up objects as far as 15 miles away.

Dec. 4/57 - Timmins, Ontario. Several persons saw a flaming red ball cross the sky in an almost direct east-west line, just barely above the horizon.

Dec. 5/57 - Timmins, Ontario. A similar occurrence happened again at approximately 6.45 p.m.

Dec. 6/57 - New Glasgow, Halifax, Nova Scotia. On Friday night, at 9 p.m., an object fell from the sky, two youngsters said, and was burning at the time and caused a fire in a field. Saturday morning, the youngsters found the object, which was round, about 2" in length. On investigation one can tell terrific heat was present, but no markings.

Dec. 8/57 - Snertingdal, Central Norway. A UFO exploded and fell in this rural community today near Oslo, was a jokenik. Two 19 year old farm boys admitted they had sent up an old German flare rocket just for the sake of fun.

Dec. 8/57 - At 6 p.m., residents in various parts of Northern Ontario saw an object streaking thru the sky. An Ontario Northland railway conductor said he saw it 53 miles north of North Bay. He said it headed for the train, then veered away, leaving a streak of fire. It was greenish in color. A Trans Canada Airlines pilot said it was not a star. One observer said 8 spikes protruded from the object, three on top, three on the bottom and one from each side.

Dec. 9/57 - Toronto, Ontario. A large yellow orange light appeared in the sky to the east and west and then faded away. No explanation by weather officials.

Dec. 12/57 - Blenheim, Ontario. A Trans Canada Airlines pilot, two Provincial Police constables and two farm families reported seeing a glowing object over the Lake Erie shoreline about 7 p.m. The ground observers watched the object for more than an hour as it moved over the shoreline, disappeared below the horizon and reappeared on the same route. Mrs. Robert Moore, Sr., described the object as glowing with a "whitish to blue light." The T.C.A. pilot was flying 12,000 feet over Wallaceburg en route to Windsor, said he's seen meteors before, but this ISN'T one.

Dec. 27/57 - Toronto, Ont. Hundreds of residents saw a "red ball of fire" cross the sky about 5 p.m. today. Malton airport said a jet plane was travelling across the sky at 40,000 ft. at that time. Mrs. Marion Cox, Grovedall Ave., said she saw the jet and also the object in the sky. She watched for 3 minutes.

Dec. 57 - Berne, Switzerland. A bright, luminous object disintegrated in a shower of sparks, said Swiss watchers.

Dec. 57 - Capetown, South Africa. An explosion in the sky was followed by a "fall of glowing fragments."

Dec. 57 - Hamburg, West German. Farmers near here said a glowing object crashed with a roar into a field and gouged a hole in the ground.

Jan. 3/58 - About 6.45 a.m. in South Western Manitoba, W.T. Manser, an amateur astronomer, who lives just east of Virden on Hwy. #1, said a light "so brilliant and with an odd bluish shade" streaked across the sky awakening him. The path it took was not a sweeping arc such as made by meteors but more perpendicular. It left a trail of white light.

Jan. 3/58 - Island Falls, Manitoba. (75 miles north of Flin Flon, Man.) Jack Barkwell, Glenn Craig & Lowell Christenson said they saw a bright object falling almost straight down at 8 a.m. It passed in an east by north direction, about 20 degrees above the horizon. All had seen meteors in the past and agreed "this was nothing like one." At one time, Mr. Christenson said, "the tail became very bright and a large section appeared to break off and burn itself out."

Jan. 3/58 - Trenton, New Jersey. Mrs. Rebecca Brovak, 603 Lamberton St., saw a shining ball with a little tail fall in the southern sky between 6.00 a.m. and 6.15 a.m.

Jan. 7/58 - A piece of equipment believed from a Russian rocket or Sputnik fell today on a farm near Asahikawa in northern Japan. It was identified as a radiosonde, used to take readings of humidity, wind & temperature at various heights.

Jan. 8/58 - A brilliantly-lighted object was reported hovering over the gulf islands today by several residents in West Vancouver and Kerrisdale, British Columbia. Miss Jane Peddler, 1420 West Forty-seventh, said the object appeared to be the size of a football. West Vancouver residents said that from Sentinel Hill it appeared oval in shape, fiery at one end and with another, weaker light at the other end. Checks with the R.C.A.F. meteorological bureau, Vancouver Airport control officers and Air Sea Rescue services brought no explanations.

Jan. 15/58 - Soviet biologist said today they were developing a new food for spacemen that produces oxygen in addition to satisfying hunger. Radio Moscow said it is called chlorella, or better known as algae (seaweed). Dr. Piotr Isakov said it feeds on carbon dioxide and would thrive on exhaled human breath.

Jan. 19/58 - There were several reports of persons sighting an object in the sky over Owen Sound, Ontario. Some reports said it was brighter than any star in the area. Altho' not official, reports indicated it was a weather balloon.

Jan. 20/58 - (Toronto Daily Star) Major Earle C. Shelley of Thamesford, Ont., said flying saucers do exist in an address to Simcoe public school teachers. A language teacher at Ingersoll district collegiate and a member of Flying Saucers International, said he believes the Venusians are "our guardian angels." He quoted a message from "A-lan" chief scientist of Venus.

Jan. 20/58 - Ottawa, Ontario. Sputnik, flying saucer or meteorite - a mysterious object lit up the western skies and switchboards at government observatories again. But it was too big, too bright and too early to be Sputnik and officials apparently were too busy to venture opinions. S.W. Sellers of 1202 Checkers Road described the thing this way: "I saw it at about 5.05 as I was leaving work. At first it looked like a plane - a jet - was going to crash. It had a tail of flame about 300 yards long trailing from it. Then the thing just stopped in mid-air and hung there for about 3 mins. Then it turned on its side and vanished."

SPACE VISITORS HELD POSSIBLE by Willy Ley (Montreal Star - Jan. 4/58)

It must be repeated that the idea of the interplanetary origin of the so-called flying saucers has many adherents mostly by default. Most sightings can be explained either as mistakes or as natural phenomena (which is just another category of mistake) but some remain unexplained. These unexplained cases must be interplanetary, I have been told on many occasions.

When I replied that this is not a logical necessity I was usually asked whether I denied that there might be other intelligent races anywhere else in the cosmos. In one case, during a debate on the radio, my opponent said that some scientists had proved statistically that there must be intelligent races elsewhere. He then proceeded to quote garbled statistics: I knew they were garbled because they were my own. I had published them about two years before in an introduction to a volume of short stories.

This is how the reasoning went: in our galaxy, our Milky Way system there are an estimated 20,000 million stars, or suns. They are of various types but we are going to assume conservatively that only every second of these suns is of the type of our own sun, belonging to what astronomers call the Main Sequence. There is no reason to assume that only such Main Sequence stars can have planets, but we'll make this assumption. So we have, in our galaxy, 10,000 million stars with planetary families or 10,000 million solar systems.

In our own solar system two planets are known to bear life, namely Earth and Mars, but we'll assume that only one planet out of every hundred bears life. This still means 100 million life-bearing planets in our galaxy. Now we'll say that only one out of a hundred of those that bear life have the conditions which produce intelligent life. This makes a round even million planets with intelligent life. Assuming further that only one per hundred of the planets with intelligent life has progressed farther than we have and has accomplished space travel we still end up with 100,000 space faring races.

The possibility exists of a visit from space, but flying saucers fail to fit the bill. No matter what has been said they do not behave intelligently. If they wished contact established, they could conceivably behave in several different ways, but certainly not the way they do. If they should wish to check on us secretly they are certainly exceedingly careless. Besides if they were space-ships they could never behave the way their defenders say they do.

All right, others might have a propulsion system beyond our present-day ken. That propulsion system might even be absolutely noiseless. But if you push a material body through our atmosphere at more than the speed of sound you produce a shock wave no matter what the system. However, no shock wave noise has ever been reported. Nor is such a shock something you might miss hearing, whether you are calm or excited, awake or asleep.

The generally-admitted and usually emphasized fact that the "saucers" are noiseless implies one of two things. Either they move much more slowly than sound, as would be the case of research balloons drifting at high altitudes, or else they are not material at all (for example, a reflection on an inversion layer which might race across the sky at any rate of speed without making shock waves.)

The probability is that those "saucers" which are not mistakes are a natural phenomenon which has not been observed very often in the past. I used the words "not very often" advisedly because Kenneth Arnold, in 1947, was not the first to report something unusual in the sky. A few people have taken the trouble of reading their way through astronomical

journals going backwards from 1947. They found a number of reports which, if they were printed nowadays, would be called flying saucer reports. At least one of these reports is more than a century old. This fact in itself speaks for natural phenomena.

But what could it be? One might simply say that we did not take the trouble of learning much about our atmosphere until we started flying, so that some new phenomena will still await discovery. This is no doubt true, but I suspect one which would clear away a number of the "unknowns."

There is an electrical phenomenon called ball lightning. It is quite rare but seems to be a little less rare on the northern slopes of the Alps where it is usually observed after (not during) a thunderstorm. In appearance ball lightning is a brightly luminous bluish-white sphere six to eight inches in diameter. It looks sharply defined to the eye but photographs fuzzily, possibly because it emits a great deal of ultra-violet light which is not seen by the eye but registers on film. Being what it is it should produce a radar image.

Ball lightning usually hovers around for a few minutes, travelling along an electric conductor, like a wire fence, if there is one. Then it finds a sudden end. Sometimes it blows up like an explosive charge, causing minor damage. Sometimes the sphere seems to collapse in itself, which produces the optical effect of withdrawing at a fantastic rate of speed. I don't know of a single case that did not take place in the mountains - the only western hemisphere report I know came from Denver - hence one might suspect that sea level air is too dense to permit its formation.

Could the "unknowns" which were sharply seen several thousand feet up by pilots, and which registered on radar but photographed fuzzily, have been just cases of ball lightning? Personally I think so. As for visiting spaceships, I take the same position as that Air Force officer mentioned in earlier article. I will be convinced, if I am shown "wreckage, machinery or bodies."

WHAT DID MADAME THEBES SEE IN 1958? (National Enquirer)

When Madame Thebes, the personal seeress for the great and near-great of Europe from 1780 to 1800, foretold that "1789 would be the most tragic year in all the history of France" people were most amused! Then, out of the blue came the revolution which killed countless thousands of Frenchmen!

The same Madame Thebes also warned us about "1861", "1914", and "1939", which were amazingly accurate for dates of wars! Her greatest warning, and she underlined it in her delicately written manuscripts, was "1958!" Yes, 1958 is upon us, and Madame Thebes who died in 1800 is more than likely looking down on us from the Golden Shore knowing full well what will happen! We have been warned of the tragedy of 1958 in advance.

FLYING LAMASARIES? (The New York Post)

Communist China intends to use Tibet, "the roof of the world", as a launching site for space ships, according to the head of Peiping's Astronomical Research Institute, Chen Tsun-wei. In an article in the newspaper China Youth, Chen said he had recently visited Tibet and found the sky unusually clear 35 out of the 36 days he was in Lhasa, "city of Sunlight." This would make Tibet an ideal site for launching spaceships.